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Volunteers Needed for Local Salvation Army Campaigns

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Office of University Communications

November 25, 2013

Gardner-Webb University Students, Employees Serve During the Christmas Season

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – One of the most iconic sights and sounds of the holidays is a ringing bell and The Salvation Army Red Kettle. With the Christmas season right around the corner, The Salvation Army offices of Cleveland and Rutherford Counties are seeking volunteers to help at various locations throughout both counties.

While some members of the Gardner-Webb University family have already volunteered to give their time, more people are needed to ring bells as well as help with the food and toy distributions for families in need the week of Dec. 16.

The history of the Christmas red kettle dates back to 1891, when Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee was overwhelmed by the amount of poor people in San Francisco. Determined to help provide them with a free Christmas dinner, McFee recalled something from his days as a sailor in Liverpool, England, and began placing pots around the city to collect donations. He successfully raised enough money to feed the poor and the word quickly spread about what good the “red kettle” could do.

Over the decades, The Salvation Army has raised million of dollars on behalf of the 4.5 million people they serve during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. If you would like to get more information or volunteer, contact Lilian at 704-482-0375.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University was founded in 1905 and is home to over 4,300 students from 37 states and 21

GWU's Katie Lovelace volunteers during The Salvation Army food/toy distribution.

foreign countries. Gardner-Webb blends a liberal arts core curriculum with more than 55 specialized major and minor programs, a comprehensive academic experience grounded in our Christian commitment to service, leadership, and intellectual freedom.